

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 009365

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 009365

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH CANDIDATE FOR ENERGY SECRETARIAT

REF: OECD PARIS 997

1. U.S. HAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO ANY OECD-COUNTRY NATIONAL FILLING ANY POSITION IN THE ENERGY SECRETARIAT. OUR PRIMARY CONCERN IS WITH THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL. THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN FILLING THE KEY JOB WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROGRAMS ON LONG-TERM COOPERATION.

2. WE AGREE THAT ANY FRENCH CANDIDATE MUST BE PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED, COMPATIBLE AND CONSTRUCTIVE IN APPROACH TO IEA PROGRAMS, AND INDEPENDENT OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT. A FRENCH CANDIDATE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ALONG WITH OTHERS AND FOR THIS REASON WE WOULD OBVIOUSLY NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL IN
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PAGE 02 STATE 009365

QUESTION.

3. FYI. (A) AS MISSION AWARE FROM HOPKINS, A STRONG U.S. CANDIDATE IS BEING PROPOSED TO HEAD POLICY ANALYSIS DIVISION AND BE FORMALLY DESIGNATED AS DEPUTY TO DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF LONG-TERM COOPERATION. ASSURANCES OF HAVING

AN AMERICAN DEPUTY COULD EASE POTENTIAL CONCERN ON OUR PART, BUT DOES NOT CHANGE QUALIFYING CONDITIONS IN PARA

2. (B) HAS ANY CONSIDERATION BEEN GIVEN TO HAVING A FRENCH NATIONAL HEAD A DIVISION RATHER THAN AN OFFICE GIVEN THE FACT THAT FRANCE IS NOT A MEMBER? END FYI. KISSINGER

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